

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following Claims as indicated.

1. (Previously amended) A joint system for producing a flat, coplanar, frame structure, comprising:

a first flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a first predetermined thickness;

5 a cavity formed in the first flat member that has a predetermined inner partially curved contour, which cavity is exposed at the first flat surface of the first flat member and along a portion of an edge of the first flat member, which cavity has a depth that extends a predetermined distance below the first flat surface, and wherein the depth of the cavity is a predetermined portion of the thickness of the first flat member; and

10 a second flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a second predetermined thickness, and having a tab with an outer partially curved contour that substantially matches the inner contour of the cavity in the first flat member so that the tab fits within the cavity, which tab has a thickness that substantially matches the depth of the cavity formed in the first flat member, and wherein the first and second flat members, when 15 joined, lie in the same plane and are disposed at a predetermined noncollinear angle with respect to each other.

2. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 1 wherein the thicknesses of the first and second members are substantially the same.

3. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 1 wherein the inner contour of the cavity and the outer contour of the tab are sized to allow a glue to be disposed therebetween.

4. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 1 wherein the inner partially curved contour of the cavity and the outer partially curved contour of the tab have the shape of a piece of a puzzle.

5. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 1 wherein the inner partially curved contour of the cavity and the outer partially curved contour of the tab have the shape of a molar tooth.

6. (Amended) A joint system for producing a flat, coplanar, frame structure, comprising:

a first flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a first predetermined thickness which first member comprises a single cavity having a predetermined inner contour, which single cavity is exposed at the first flat surface, ~~that and~~ is exposed along a portion of an edge of the first flat member, which single cavity has a depth that extends a predetermined distance below the first flat surface; and

5 a second flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a second predetermined thickness, that comprises a single tab with an outer 10 contour that substantially matches the inner contour of the single cavity and that fits within the single cavity, and wherein the first and second flat members, when joined, lie in the same plane and are disposed at a predetermined noncollinear angle with respect to each other.

7. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 6 wherein the depth of the cavity and the thickness of the tab are substantially the same.

8. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 6 wherein the thicknesses of the first and second members are substantially the same.

9. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 6 wherein the inner contour of the cavity and the outer contour of the tab are sized to allow a glue to be disposed therebetween.

10. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 6 wherein the inner contour of the cavity and the outer contour of the tab have the shape of a piece of a puzzle.

11. (Original) The joint system recited in Claim 6 wherein the inner contour of the cavity and the outer contour of the tab have the shape of a molar tooth.

12. (Amended) A joint system for producing a flat, coplanar, frame structure, comprising:

a first flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a first predetermined thickness, which first flat member comprises a cavity having a predetermined inner partially curved contour, which cavity is exposed at the first flat surface, ~~that and~~ is exposed along a portion of an edge of the first flat member, which cavity has a depth that extends a first predetermined distance below the first flat surface;

~~a second flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and the first predetermined thickness, which second flat member comprises a cavity having a predetermined inner partially curved contour, which cavity is exposed at the first flat surface, and is exposed along a portion of an edge of the second flat member, which cavity has a depth that extends a second predetermined distance below the first flat surface; and~~

~~a second third flat member having a predetermined shape, first and second opposed flat surfaces, and a second predetermined thickness, that comprises a tab first and second tabs with an outer partially curved contours that substantially match the respective inner partially curved contours of the first and second cavities cavity and that fits fit within the respective first and second cavities cavity, and wherein the first, and second and third flat members, when joined, lie in the same plane and are disposed at a predetermined noncollinear angle angles with respect to each other.~~

*D.
Lew-W*

13. (Amended) The joint system recited in Claim 12 wherein the depths of the first and second cavities cavity and the thicknesses of the tab first and second tabs are substantially the same.

14. (Amended) The joint system recited in Claim 12 wherein the thicknesses of the first, and second and third second members are substantially the same.

15. (Amended) The joint system recited in Claim 12 wherein the inner partially curved contours of the first and second cavities cavity and the outer partially curved contours of the tab first and second tabs are sized to allow a glue to be disposed therebetween.

16. (Amended) The joint system recited in Claim 12 wherein the inner partially curved contours of the first and second cavities cavity and the outer partially curved contours of the tab first and second tabs have the shape of a piece of a puzzle.

17. (Amended) The joint system recited in Claim 12 wherein the inner partially curved contours of the first and second cavities cavity and the outer partially curved contour of the tab first and second tabs have the shape of a molar tooth.